

THAT WHICH IS CLAIMED:

1. A method for monitoring a task executing on a data processing system,
the task having an associated work in process queue and an associated work pending
5 queue, comprising the steps of:

providing the task configured to properly execute requests which are
terminated in progress and restarted from an initial start point;

determining if the task is executing properly; and

restarting the task if it is not executing properly; and

10 wherein the step of restarting the task comprises the step of reinitiating
execution by the task of requests in the work in process queue.

2. A method according to Claim 1 wherein the step of restarting the task
comprises the steps of:

15 placing requests in the work in process queue in the work pending
queue;

clearing the work in process queue; and

reinitiating execution by the task of requests from the work pending
queue.

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3. A method according to Claim 2 wherein a plurality of interrelated tasks
are monitored by a watchdog task and wherein each of the plurality of interrelated
tasks has an associated work in process queue and an associated work pending queue
and wherein at least one of the plurality of interrelated tasks places requests in the
25 associated work pending queue of a second of the plurality of interrelated tasks and
executes requests from its associated work pending queue received from a third of the
plurality of interrelated tasks.

4. A method according to Claim 3 wherein the second of the plurality of
30 interrelated tasks is the third of the plurality of interrelated tasks.

5. A system for monitoring tasks executing on a computer, comprising:
a first task having an associated work in process queue and an associated work
pending queue,

a watchdog task comprising:

means for determining if the first task is executing properly; and

means for restarting the first task if it is not executing properly, the

means for restarting comprising:

5 means for placing requests in the work in process queue in the
work pending queue;

means for clearing the work in process queue; and

means for reinitiating execution by the first task of requests

from the work pending queue; and

10 wherein the first task further comprises means for properly executing requests
which are terminated in progress and restarted from an initial start point.

6. A system according to Claim 5 wherein the means for restarting the
task comprises:

15 means for placing requests in the work in process queue in the work pending
queue;

means for clearing the work in process queue; and

means for reinitiating execution by the task of requests from the work pending
queue.

20 7. A system according to Claim 6 wherein a plurality of interrelated tasks
are monitored by a watchdog task and wherein each of the plurality of interrelated
tasks has an associated work in process queue and an associated work pending queue
and wherein at least one of the plurality of interrelated tasks places requests in the
25 associated work pending queue of a second of the plurality of interrelated tasks and
executes requests from its associated work pending queue received from a third of the
plurality of interrelated tasks.

8. A system according to Claim 7 wherein the second of the plurality of
30 interrelated tasks is the third of the plurality of interrelated tasks.

9. A computer program product for monitoring a task executing on a
computer, the task having an associated work in process queue and an associated
work pending queue, the computer program product comprising:

a computer-readable storage medium having computer-readable program code means embodied in said medium, said computer-readable program code means comprising:

- 5 computer-readable program code means for determining if the task is executing properly;
- computer-readable program code means for restarting the task if it is not executing properly, the computer-readable program code means for restarting comprising:
 - 10 computer-readable program code means for placing requests in the work in process queue in the work pending queue;
 - computer-readable program code means for clearing the work in process queue; and
 - computer-readable program code means for reinitiating execution by the task of requests from the work pending queue; and
- 15 wherein the task is configured to properly execute requests which are terminated in progress and restarted from an initial start point.

10. A computer program product according to Claim 9 wherein the computer-readable program code means for restarting the task comprises:
- 20 computer-readable program code means for placing requests in the work in process queue in the work pending queue;
 - computer-readable program code means for clearing the work in process queue; and
 - computer-readable program code means for reinitiating execution by the task
 - 25 of requests from the work pending queue.

11. A computer program product according to Claim 10 wherein a plurality of interrelated tasks are monitored by a watchdog task and wherein each of the plurality of interrelated tasks has an associated work in process queue and an
- 30 associated work pending queue and wherein at least one of the plurality of interrelated tasks places requests in the associated work pending queue of a second of the plurality of interrelated tasks and executes requests from its associated work pending queue received from a third of the plurality of interrelated tasks.

12. A computer program product according to Claim 11 wherein the second of the plurality of interrelated tasks is the third of the plurality of interrelated tasks.